Galerie

Live *Artfully*

Inside the Paris Studio of Jean-Michel Othoniel

Dazzling Homes in Ibiza, the South of France, Watch Hill, and More

SUMMER ESCAPES

Working with Feldman Architecture on an intimate home in the Santa Lucia Preserve, near Carmel, California, Jay Jeffers outfitted an outdoor space with Walter Lamb chaises.

Wide Open

Interior experts share their techniques for orchestrating gorgeous, seamless transitions between indoors and out

Warmer weather incites a craving for more time outdoors, whether that's by the pool, in the garden, or around a table under the stars. Yet rain, wind, bugs, and even too much sun can quickly ruin any alfresco delights. To help mitigate the less desirable elements of nature, designers are fielding an increasing number of requests for spaces that freely open to the outside while offering all the comforts of indoors. "A room like this just transports you," says architect Thomas A. Kligerman. "You get the same feeling at your own house that you might get sitting on a lanai in Maui or a loggia in Tuscany."

Whether off a salon, a dining area, or a kitchen, an artfully appointed terrace can extend a home's living area in a multitude of ways. "This becomes a place people can read the paper in the morning with their coffee," says designer Stewart Manger, "or they can have a cocktail at night."

In Majorca, Spain, Stewart Manger conceived an open terrace overlooking the Bay of Palma with teak Sutherland furnishings and a McKinnon and Harris coffee table.

Place Settings

The location of an outdoor room can be just as varied as its aesthetic. In Malibu, Suzanne Tucker added a bucolic courtyard with olive, lemon, and kumquat trees and crushed stone at the entrance. Jamie Bush, who is currently working on an estate in the Los Angeles Bird Streets neighborhood, leans more to a central enclosure. "When you get these really big footprints, you don't get a lot of daylight in the middle of the house," he says. "That courtyard is another device that breaks down the spaces and makes the house feel alive."

Advancements in door designs have opened the field, but often architecture and aesthetics guide whether to choose French doors, sliders, accordion, or the favored pocket style. "I find accordions to be cumbersome," says Bush. "When they stack, they jut out in a space, which feels messy to me."

In rebuilding a home lost in the Woolsey Fire, Sophie Goineau created a terrace that nearly doubled the total livable square footage, using durable materials like concrete and Corten. "I think the future is having barely any walls and movable furniture so you can have freedom to rearrange or recompose whenever you want," she says.

Lodge Stripe performance fabric by MAX HUMPHREY and SUNBRELLA for PINDLER; *pindler.com*

Dune sectional by RH; *rh.com*

Crescent coffee table by EUGENI QUITLLET for SUTHERLAND; *sutherlandfurniture.com*

Palazzo blue outdoor cushion by LA DOUBLE J; *us.ladoublej.com*

Frutti di Mare crystal tumblers by ARTEL from ABASK; *abask.com*

Oasis round seat by ANTONIO CITTERIO for FLEXFORM; *flexform.it*

COURTESY OF RH

At a home in the Dominican Republic, Paolo Moschino and Philip Vergeylen furnished a trellis-lined room with vintage pieces and the homeowner's extensive collection of porcelain.

Smooth Operator

Keeping flooring flush and with a "seamless visual transition," says Manger, can further enhance the indoor-outdoor flow. He often uses a more refined version of an exterior material like bluestone throughout, while Bush might pair a beige stone outside with a white oak interior floor.

The evolution of performance fabrics by companies such as Perennials, Kravet, and Quadrille has changed the game as furnishings can have the look and feel of pieces intended for the indoors yet withstand the elements. And shades, sheers, or even exterior louvers—for example, the ones Kligerman installed at a coastal retreat—diffuse sun through expanses of glass. "I like to do a woven wood shade or woven mesh where when it's down, the light is dappled," says designer Jay Jeffers. "I'm of the school that if seeing the outdoors makes you happy, then let the sun come in."

Khaya pendant shade by COLLABORATIVE CRAFT PROJECTS for POOKY; *us.pooky.com*

Celine coffee table by BUNNY WILLIAMS HOME; *bunnywilliamshome.com*

Zen outdoor lounger by GREAT LIBRARY DESIGN STUDIO for MORPHO from ETHNICRAFT; *ethnicraft.com*

Mozaix lounge collection by KRIS VAN PUYVELDE for ROYAL BOTANIA; *royalbotania.com*

Balian rug by SERENA & LILY; *serenaandlily.com*

Conceived by Kligerman Architecture & Design, this Massachusetts pool house has pocket screen and glass doors, while exterior louvers control the sunlight throughout the day.

Set Dressing

For a truly integrated indoor-outdoor experience, designers often keep the furniture plan consistent. "One should naturally flow to the other with both color and materiality," says Tucker. "The furnishings should be just as carefully considered with a well-thought-out floor plan that takes into account the various access points and activities."

While updates to materials elevate weather-resistant furnishings to a luxurious degree, conditions can still wreak unexpected havoc. At a private retreat in the Dominican Republic, Philip Vergeylen and Paolo Moschino specifically chose pieces made of rattan, bath fixtures of brushed steel, and card lamp shades—things able to withstand the humidity—as well as artwork more suited to the climate.

"There's a large collection of porcelain, which is perfectly fine to use there, and bronzes, marble statues, coromandel screens. There is not a single oil painting," Vergeylen says. "In the Caribbean, people want to experience the outside, even when they're inside. What gives me the biggest joy is how that translates to beauty without pretension." —JILL SIERACKI

Boheme chair by SEBASTIAN HERKNER for JANUS ET CIE; *janusetcie.com*

Lambda table by GIUSEPPE BAVUSO for RIMADESIO; *rimadesio.it*

Mini Shiitake portable lamp by COLLIER WEBB; *collierwebb.com*

Mazarin jacquard by DEDAR; *dedar.com*

Casaque vase by HERMÈS; *hermes.com*